

Attorney Docket No.: INT-0004
Inventors: Mattern et al.
Serial No.: 10/002,653
Filing Date: October 19, 2001
Page 3

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

listing of the claims:

Claim 1-16: (canceled)

Claim 17: (new) A scaffold or matrix comprising a lyophilized collagen and glycosaminoglycan co-precipitate and a silicone layer applied to the lyophilized collagen and glycosaminoglycan co-precipitate, said lyophilized collagen and glycosaminoglycan co-precipitate cross-linked after application of the silicone layer with glutaraldehyde at a density of cross-linkage and under conditions which stabilize the scaffold or matrix toward electron beam radiation at about 15 to about 80 kGy so that the matrix or scaffold retains characteristics to function as a structural support for cell and tissue ingrowth.

Claim 18: (new) A method for producing the scaffold or matrix of claim 17 comprising:

(a) adding glycosaminoglycan to a collagen solution to co-precipitate collagen fibrils coated with glycosaminoglycan from the solution;

(b) lyophilizing the collagen and glycosaminoglycan co-precipitate of step (a);

(c) applying a silicone layer to the lyophilized co-precipitate of step (b); and

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Serial No.: 10/002,653
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Page 4

(d) cross-linking the lyophilized collagen and glycosaminoglycan co-precipitate with glutaraldehyde at a density of cross-linkage and under conditions which stabilize the scaffold or matrix toward electron beam radiation at about 15 to about 80 kGy so that the matrix or scaffold retains characteristics to function as a structural support for cell and tissue ingrowth following sterilization.